RG104 E-1 Box 173

Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT,

Washington, D. C., October 9, 1891.

The Superintendent, U. S. Mint,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:

Referring to your letter of the 6th inst., enclosing a communication from Mr. Barber in regard to the new designs for coins, I would say that I would prefer that the stars or mullets should have five points.

In regard to the objection which I raised as to the ribbon passing over the neck of the eagle I agree with Mr. Barber that the change which I suggested would involve too much rearrangement and I don't know that it would look as well as the present design.

In regard to the olive branch I beg to refer the Engraver to "Clark's Introduction to Heraldry" 18th edition, page 99, where he says:

Branches, slips, and sprigs,the shrubs, etc., frequently occur in coat armor. The slip should consist of three leaves; the sprig of five, and the branch, if fructed, of four, or if unfructed, of nine leaves

My judgment is that the unfructed olive branch is more usual and prettier. I lay no great stress upon this but from what examination I have given to the subject of heraldry I do not think it is customary to exhibit the olive branch bearing fruit, and I

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would suggest that the fruit be omitted.

Very respectfully,

E. O. Leech

Director.

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U. S. Treasury Department.

Mem.

I will follow the instructions regarding Stars.

In the design with wreath omitted I will rearrange the Olive branch so as to have nine leaves.

I am preparing a model with rearrange of ribbon When finished will submit the same for criticism.

Chas. E. Barber,
Engraver

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Treasury Dept.
Washington. D. C.
October 9. "91

E. O. Leech.
Director.

Relative to Letter of 9th—
Enclosing a communication from Mr Barber in regard to new designs for coins.

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OCT 10 1891
U. S. MINT, PHILA.

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 173

[Abstract:] Relative to letter of 9" – inclosing a communication from Mr. Barber in regard to new designs for coins.

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[Included note:]

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